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PATENTS
293/053



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Paul J. Hindrichs et al.

Application No.: 10/678,403

Confirmation No.: 1004

Filed : October 3, 2003

For : SELF-EXPANDING EXTERIOR CONNECTORS FOR
CREATING ANASTOMOSES TO SMALL-DIAMETER
VESSELS AND METHODS OF USE

Group Art Unit : 3743

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97, applicants hereby make the following references of record in the above-identified patent application:

United States Patent Documents:

Scholz et al., Patent No. 6,273,912 (08/14/2001)

Peterson et al., Publication No. 2002/0169466-A1 (11/14/2002)

Hindrichs et al., Publication No. 2004/0068279-A1 (04/08/2004)

Foreign Patent Documents:

PCT, Publication No. WO 99/38441 (08/05/1999)

PCT, Publication No. WO 00/33745 (06/15/2000)

PCT, Publication No. WO 00/74579 (12/14/2000)

PCT, Publication No. WO 01/34037 (05/17/2001)

PCT, Publication No. WO 02/091952 (11/21/2002)

PCT, Publication No. WO 03/026475 (04/03/2003)

Copies of the aforementioned references, which are listed on the accompanying Form PTO-1449 (submitted in duplicate), are enclosed herewith.

Applicants reserve the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this information may not be prior art, and/or to prove that this information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

It is respectfully requested that these patents be (1) fully considered by the Patent and Trademark Office during examination of this application; and (2) printed on any patent which may issue on this application. Applicants request that a copy of Form PTO-1449, as considered and initialed by the Examiner, be returned with the next communication.

This Statement is submitted more than three months from the application filing date but before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97, submission of this Statement requires no fee. However, if for any reason a fee is due, the Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of any fees required in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement to Deposit Account No. 06-1075. A duplicate copy of this letter is transmitted herewith.

An early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

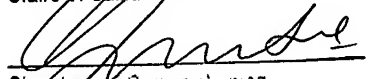
Respectfully submitted,



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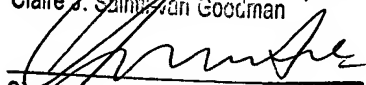
Respectfully submitted,

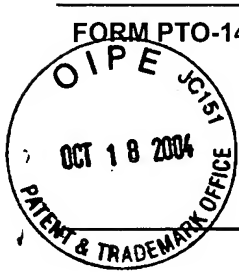


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Claire J. Sammons Goodman


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FORM PTO-1449

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICEINFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANTATTY. DOCKET NO.
293/053APPLICATION NO.
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Paul J. Hindrichs et al.CONFIRMATION NO.
1004FILING DATE
October 3, 2003GROUP ART UNIT
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	6,273,912	08/14/2001	Scholz et al.	623	1.31	
	2002/0169466-A1	11/14/2002	Peterson et al.	606	153	
	2004/0068279-A1	04/08/2004	Hindrichs et al.	606	153	

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	WO 99/38441	08/05/1999	PCT	A61B	17/11		
	WO 00/33745	06/15/2000	PCT	A61B	17/11		
	WO 00/74579	12/14/2000	PCT	A61B	17/32		
	WO 01/34037	05/17/2001	PCT	A61B	17/08		
	WO 02/091952	11/21/2002	PCT	A61F	2/00		
	WO 03/026475	04/03/2003	PCT	A61B			

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